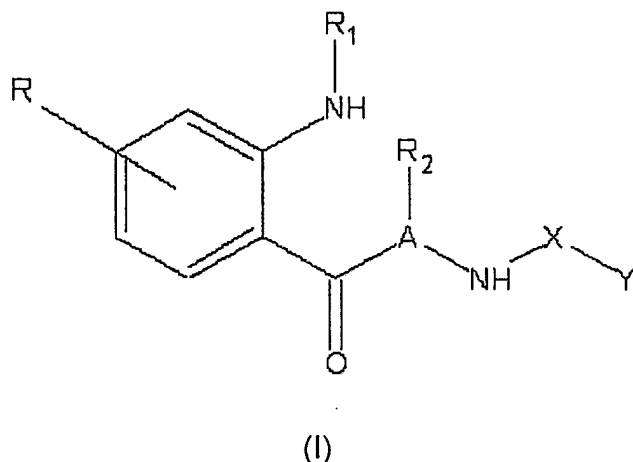


## CLAIMS

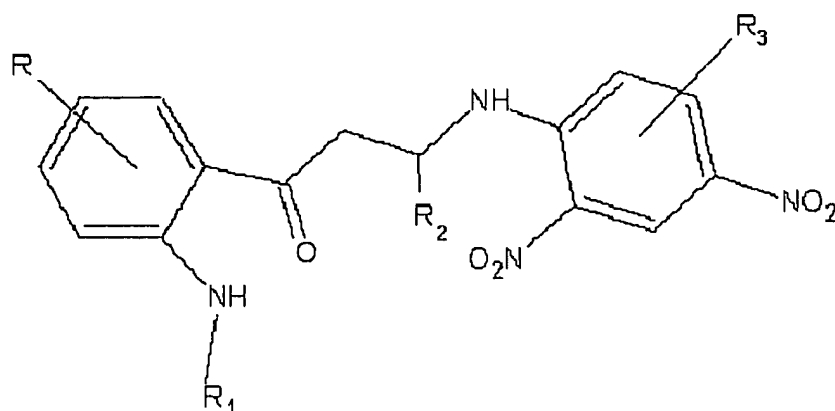
1. A compound having the formula (I):



and stereoisomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein:

A is C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylene; R, R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are independently hydrogen, halo, haloalkyl, aryl, a heterocyclic group, a heteroaryl group, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, arylalkyl, arylalkenyl, arylalkynyl, hydroxyalkyl, nitro, amino, cyano, cyanamido, guanidine, amidino, acylamido, hydroxy, thiol, acyloxy, azido, alkoxy, carboxy, carbonylamido, S-alkyl or alkylthiol; X is >C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylene, >C=O or >C=S or a single bond; and Y is hydrogen, halo, haloalkyl, aryl, a heterocyclic group, a heteroaryl group, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, arylalkyl, arylalkenyl, arylalkynyl, hydroxyalkyl, nitro, amino, cyano, cyanamido, guanidine, amidino, acylamido, hydroxy, thiol, acyloxy, azido, alkoxy, carboxy, carbonylamido styryl which may be ring-substituted by up to four substituents independently selected from among hydrogen, halo, haloalkyl, aryl, a heterocyclic group, a heteroaryl group, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, arylalkyl, arylalkenyl, arylalkynyl, hydroxyalkyl, nitro, amino, cyano, cyanamido, guanidine, amidino, acylamido, hydroxy, thiol, acyloxy, azido, alkoxy, S-alkyl, alkylthiol or -COQ, where Q is hydroxy, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, amino, mono- C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino, di- C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylamino, hydroxylamino, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxyamino or aryl-C<sub>1-4</sub>-alkoxyamino, but excluding (a) the compounds where simultaneously X is >C=O, Y is methyl, A is CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>, R is 5-methoxy, R<sub>1</sub> is H or formyl and R<sub>2</sub> is H, and (b) the compounds where the moiety -A(R<sub>2</sub>)-NH-X-Y is -CH<sub>2</sub>CH(COQ)-NH<sub>2</sub> or -CH(haloalkyl)-CH(COQ)-NH<sub>2</sub>.

2. A compound according to claim 1, having formula (II):



(II)

wherein R is hydrogen, methyl or methoxy,  $R_1$  is hydrogen or formyl,  $R_2$  is hydrogen or carboxyl, and  $R_3$  is hydrogen, halo, haloalkyl, aryl, a heterocyclic group, a heteroaryl group, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, arylalkyl, arylalkenyl, arylalkynyl, hydroxyalkyl, nitro, amino, cyano, cyanamido, guanidine, amidino, acylamido, hydroxy, thiol, acyloxy, azido, alkoxy, carboxy, carbonylamido, S-alkyl or alkylthiol, and stereoisomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

3. Compounds according to claim 1, where in formula (I), X is 2-furyl, 2-dihydrofuryl, 2-tetrahydrofuryl or (2- $R^o$ -COO-)phenyl, any of which may be substituted by 1-2 substituents selected from  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl,  $C_{1-4}$  alkoxy, OH, nitro, and Y is hydrogen or styryl which is ring-substituted by up to two substituents independently selected from among halogen,  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl,  $C_{1-4}$  alkoxy, OH, nitro, aryl, aryl- $C_{1-4}$  alkyl, or aryl- $C_{1-4}$  alkoxy, and stereoisomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

4. Compounds according to claim 1, and stereoisomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, where in formula (I),  $R_2$  is hydrogen and at least one of the following conditions applies, namely:

R is 5-methoxy; and/or

A is  $CH_2CH_2$  or  $CH_2CHCOOH$ ; and/or

$R_1$  is hydrogen; and/or

X is a 2,4-dinitrophenyl group and Y is hydrogen.

5. Compounds according to claim 1, and stereoisomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, where in formula (I), X and Y are selected in combination as follows:

X is -CO- and Y is 2-furyl; or

X is -CO- and Y is 2-tetrahydrofuryl; or

X is -CH<sub>2</sub>- and Y is 2-tetrahydrofuryl; or

X is -CO- and Y is 2-acetoxyphenyl; or

X is -CO- and Y is 3,4-dihydroxystyryl or 3,4-dihydroxycinnamoyloxy.

6. Compounds according to claim 5, wherein at least one of the following conditions applies, namely:

R is 5-methoxy; and/or

A is CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub> or CH<sub>2</sub>CHCOOH; and/or

R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogen.

7. A compound according to claim 1, which is 3-(2-aminobenzoyl)-2-(2,4-dinitroanilino)propanoic acid, and stereoisomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

8. A compound according to claim 1, which is 2-(2-aminobenzoyl)-N-(2,4-dinitrophenyl)ethylamine, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

9. A pharmaceutical formulation containing a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound as defined in claim 1, in association with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable ingredient selected from diluents, preservatives, solubilizers, emulsifiers, adjuvants, excipients and carriers.

10. A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 9, which is further characterized by at least one of the following features:

(i) it is adapted for oral, rectal, parenteral, transbuccal, intrapulmonary or transdermal administration;

(ii) it is in unit dosage form, each unit dosage comprising an amount of said at least one compound which lies within the range of 0.0025-1000 mg;

(iii) it is a controlled release formulation, wherein said at least one compound is released at a predetermined controlled rate;

(iv) it comprises additionally at least one known therapeutically active ingredient selected from neuroleptics, thymoleptics, anxiolitics, tranquilizers, analgesics, and antiparkinson's drugs.

11. Use of at least one compound as defined in any one of claims 1-8, or a pharmaceutical formulation as defined in claim 9 or claim 10, for the manufacture of a medicament for treatment or prevention of a physiological condition selected from stroke, ischemia, CNS trauma, hypoglycemia and surgery, CNS disorders including neurodegenerative diseases, overstimulation of the excitatory amino acids, psychiatric disorders, epilepsy and other convulsive disorders, anxiety, psychosis, senile dementia, multi-infarct dementia, chronic pain (analgesia), glaucoma, CMV retinitis, urinary incontinence, and for inducing anesthesia, enhancing cognition, and preventing opiate tolerance and withdrawal symptoms, impotence, cardiovascular disorders including hypertension, preventing blood coagulation, neuropathy, anti-inflammatory, chronobiological-related disorders, seasonal-related disorders, endocrine indications, contraception and infertility, precocious puberty, premenstrual syndrome, hyperprolactinemia, and growth hormone deficiency, neoplastic disease, other proliferative diseases (benign and tumor prostate growth), immune system disorders, conditions associated with senescence, ophthalmological diseases, cluster headache, migraine, skin-protection, diabetes stabilization and weight gain disorders, and for use in animal breeding.